
prelude

As the music plays, please quietly prepare your heart and mind for worship, lifting your thoughts up from the cares of this world.

preparing our hearts

Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!
Blessed are those who keep his testimonies,
who seek him with their whole heart,
who also do no wrong,
but walk in his ways!

– Psalm 119:1-3_{ESV}

**** call to worship**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
All: **For his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Give thanks to the God of gods,
All: **For his steadfast love endures forever.**

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
All: **For his steadfast love endures forever[.]**

– Psalm 136:1-3_{ESV}

** Please stand if you are able

GIVE TO OUR GOD IMMORTAL PRAISE

Give to our God Immortal praise; mercy and truth are all his ways:
Wonders of grace to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.

Give to the Lord of lords renown; the King of kings with glory crown:
His mercies ever shall endure when lords and kings are known no more.

He sent his Son with power to save from guilt and darkness and the grave:
Wonders of grace to God belong; repeat his mercies in your song.

Through this vain world he guides our feet and leads us to his heavenly seat:
His mercies ever shall endure when this vain world shall be no more.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: DUKE STREET, John Hatton. Public Domain.

**** prayer of invocation**

Leader: O Lord God, maker of the heavens, the earth, and all that is within them; so also you have made us, a people you have set aside for yourself; a people called by your Holy Name. As we gather here in your presence by the grace you give, impress upon our hearts the praise and honor we owe you; instruct us in our need for your Son; and increase in us faith and obedience by your Spirit. Amen.

**** affirmation of faith**

Leader: Did God, then, create man so wicked and perverse?

All: No, on the contrary, God created man good and in his image, that is, in true righteousness and holiness, so that he might rightly know God his Creator, heartily love him, and live with him in eternal blessedness to praise and glorify him.

Leader: From where, then, did man's depraved nature come?

All: **From the fall and disobedience of our first parents, Adam and Eve, in Paradise, for there our nature became so corrupt that we are all conceived and born in sin.**

Leader: But are we so corrupt that we are totally unable to do any good and inclined to all evil?

All: **Yes, unless we are regenerated by the Spirit of God.**

– *Heidelberg Catechism*, Q&A 6, 7, & 8

** hymn of praise

WHAT WONDROUS LOVE IS THIS

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss

To bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul; to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down, sinking down,

When I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul. Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing;

To God and to the Lamb I will sing.

To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am;

While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing. While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be

And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on. And through eternity, I'll sing on.

Words: Folk Hymn; Music: WONDROUS LOVE. Public Domain.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: [I]f my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

– 2 Chronicles 7:14_{ESV}

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

All: **God in heaven, holy and righteous,
Forgive us for thinking small thoughts of you
And for ignoring your immensity and greatness.
Lord Jesus, forgive us when we forget that you rule the nations
And our small lives.
Holy Spirit, we offend you in minimizing your power
And squandering your gifts.
We confess that our blindness to your glory, O Triune God,
Has resulted in shallow confession, tepid conviction,
And only mild repentance.
Have mercy upon us. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

Please reflect and silently confess your sins.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE **

Leader: For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

– 2 Corinthians 5:21_{ESV}

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THY MERCY, MY GOD

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
The joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue;
Thy free grace alone, from the first to the last,
Hath won my affections, and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
But, through thy free goodness, my spirits revive,
And he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart,
Which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
Dissolved by thy goodness, I fall to the ground,
And weep to the praise of the mercy I've found.

Great Father of mercies, thy goodness I own,
And the covenant love of thy crucified Son;
All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

All praise to the Spirit, whose whisper divine
Seals mercy, and pardon, and righteousness mine.

“Thy Mercy, My God,” Words: John Stocker, Public Domain. Music: Sandra McCracken.
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Leader: Psalm 19:7-14
This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

An officer of the church prays for the world, nation, community, and church.

Leader: All these mercies we ask in the name of Jesus, who prayed saying,
**All: Our Father who is in heaven, hallowed be your name;
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
Forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors,
Do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.**

Candidate for baptism | Dante Valentine Schell

Matthew 28:18-20 ^{ESV} | And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Romans 6:4-5 ^{ESV} | We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS OF AN INFANT

1. Do you acknowledge your child’s need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God’s covenant promises in his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God’s appointment, to bring him up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

QUESTION FOR THE CONGREGATION **

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting these parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

Welcome this new covenant child by singing:

JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

Words: Anna Bartlett Warner; Music: William B. Bradbury. Public Domain.

** passing the peace

Leader: Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” In a world filled with trouble, let us encourage one another to look to the one who has overcome the world. May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

While your children are welcome and encouraged to worship with you, at this time they can be dismissed for an age-appropriate worship for ages 3-5.

If you would like to hear more about CPC or would like to let us know of a prayer need, please include your contact information or prayer request in the welcome pad when it comes around to you.

An elder will lead the passing of the peace. If you are joining us from your home, please unmute yourself so that you can greet one another. If you are gathered here with us today, greet one another warmly with the peace of Christ.

Series | “Romans: The Foundation of Our Faith”

Sermon | “What’s Wrong With the World”

September 17, 2023

Romans 1:18-32 ^{ESV} | 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. 19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. 21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, 25 because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

26 For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; 27 and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

28 And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. 29 They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, 31 foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. 32 Though they know God’s righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

**** gospel charge**

Leader: In response to the Gospel of grace, how shall we then live?

All: Let us ... lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

– Hebrews 12:1b-2_{ESV}

WELCOME TO HIS TABLE

The Lord's Supper is a family meal for Christians — a time when we delight in Christ and in the good news that His work alone has made us right with God. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, and seek strength to live more faithfully to Christ are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, please use this time to meditate on the following prayer.

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

Please remain seated for communion. As a symbol of our unity in Christ, wait until everyone has been served the elements, and we will all partake together. Once you are finished with your cup, please pass it to the inside aisles and the ushers will retrieve them.

If you have a gluten allergy, there are gluten-free wafers available in the center of the bread trays. During the celebration of communion, we will sing the printed hymn.

NOTE TO PARENTS: *To receive communion, a child must have been baptized, publicly professed their faith in Christ, and been formally received as a communing member by the elders of this church or the governing body of the church to which you belong. We look forward to welcoming your children to the table when they come to this point and ask that you speak to the pastor when you feel your child is ready to begin the process of becoming a communing member.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.”

– Mark 14:22-24^{ESV}

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God.

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Minister: Let us pray.

All: O Lord and heavenly Father, when we celebrate and observe this memorial your Son has commended to us, we remember his suffering and death, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension; and we await his coming again with power and great glory. God of Mercy, hear our prayer and by your Word and Holy Spirit bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine. Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Holy Name. Amen.

Minister: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Minister: Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

**All: When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
We proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come again.**

Minister: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

As the elements are distributed, sing as one body, affirming that in Christ we are united to him and to one another.

DEAR REFUGE OF MY WEARY SOUL

Dear refuge of my weary soul, on thee, when sorrows rise
On thee, when waves of trouble roll, my fainting hope relies.
To thee I tell each rising grief, for thou alone canst heal.
Thy Word can bring a sweet relief, for every pain I feel.

But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail, I fear to call thee mine.
The springs of comfort seem to fail, and all my hopes decline.
Yet gracious God, where shall I flee? Thou art my only trust,
And still my soul would cleave to thee, though prostrate in the dust.

Hast thou not bid me seek thy face, and shall I seek in vain?
And can the ear of sovereign grace be deaf when I complain?
No still the ear of sovereign grace, attends the mourner's prayer.
Oh, may I ever find access, to breathe my sorrows there.

Thy mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat.
With humble hope attend thy will, and wait beneath thy feet.
Thy mercy seat is open still, here let my soul retreat.
With humble hope attend thy will, and wait beneath thy feet.

“Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul,” Words: Anne Steele, Public Domain. Music: Kevin Twit.
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The offering is a vital part of our response to God's grace provided for us in the preaching of his word and administration of the Lord's Supper. Our tithes and offerings represent the entirety of our lives being consecrated to the Lord Jesus Christ and the coming of his kingdom to this world. As God's grace is freely given to us, so we give freely in return; not in any way to add to Christ's supremely adequate atonement for us, but in joyful response to this work and in thanksgiving for such unmerited grace.

LET US LOVE AND SING AND WONDER

Let us love and sing and wonder, let us praise the Savior's name
He has hushed the law's loud thunder, he has quenched Mount Sinai's flame
He has washed us with his blood, he has washed us with his blood
He has washed us with his blood, he has brought us nigh to God

Let us love the Lord who bought us, pitied us when enemies
Called us by his grace and taught us, gave us ears and gave us eyes
He has washed us with his blood, he has washed us with his blood
He has washed us with his blood, he presents our souls to God

Let us sing though fierce temptation, threatens hard to bear us down
For the Lord, our strong salvation, holds in view the conqueror's crown
He who washed us with his blood, he who washed us with his blood,
He who washed us with his blood, soon will bring us home to God

Let us wonder grace and justice, join and point to mercy's store
When through grace in Christ our trust is, justice smiles and asks no more
He who washed us with his blood, he who washed us with his blood
He who washed us with his blood has secured our way to God

Let us praise and join the chorus of the saints enthroned on high
Here they trusted him before us, now their praises fill the sky
Thou hast washed us with thy blood, thou hast washed us with thy blood
Thou hast washed us with thy blood, thou art worthy Lamb of God

“Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder,” Words: John Newton, Public Domain; Music: Laura Taylor.
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announcements

**** benediction**

****doxology**

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

for first-time visitors

Whether you are visiting us from out of town or looking for a church to call home, we're so glad to have you with us. Please fill out the visitor section in the attendance pad when it circulates.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING | TODAY

Please make plans to attend a congregational meeting at the end of the worship service **today** to discuss and approve the process for the selection of a search committee for the next senior pastor. This will be followed by a second congregational meeting on **Sunday, October 1** to elect members of the church to serve on the search committee.

PRAYER MEETING | TUESDAY

Please plan to join the monthly prayer meeting **Tuesday, September 19, 12p** in the CPC conference room (room 8). There will be a Zoom option as well. **Email Jeanne Dillinger** (prayer@cpcgeorgetown.org) prayer and meeting link requests. All are welcome to join!

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP | OCTOBER 14

Men of all ages - Come join us for a day of fellowship at David Moore's ranch **Saturday, October 14, 2-4p!** We will have great food and men doing manly things. This is a come and go event and a GREAT opportunity to invite your neighbors, coworkers, or friends. **Please respond to the Evite, or email James Schell** to RSVP or to be added to the Evite list (men@cpcgeorgetown.org).

men's discipleship groups

We are launching a new men's ministry this fall at CPC. Groups of 3-5 men will be meeting every 2-4 weeks for a time of life-on-life discipleship through fellowship, prayer, Scripture memory, discussion, accountability, and encouragement through personal testimonies and life updates. Each group will also have outreach and acts of service components. For more information or to sign up, **please contact Daniel McDowell** (daniel@cpcgeorgetown.org).

an evening of hope | october 17

Don't miss The Pregnancy Help Center of Williamson County's annual benefit dinner, *An Evening of Hope*, **Tuesday, October 17, 7p** at High Pointe Estate (5555 Co Rd 258, Liberty Hill). The doors open at 630p. There will be a delicious meal, silent auction, and a keynote speaker. Jess Ford of Live Action will share his powerful story of survival and his passion for the gift of life. Larry and Molly Brown are sponsoring two tables at the event. If you are interested in joining for dinner, **please email Abbey Jennings** (abbey@cpcgeorgetown.org). If you would also like to sponsor a table or provide underwriting for this event, please call (512) 868.0153 or visit www.phcwc.com/events. Do not wait! **The last day to purchase tickets is October 2.**

communion preparation

We are in need of two additional volunteers to prepare communion trays in a once-a-month rotation. Setup usually takes 30-45 minutes each week and can be performed prior to Sunday morning. For additional details, **please contact Chris Windsor** (chris.windsor@gmail.com).